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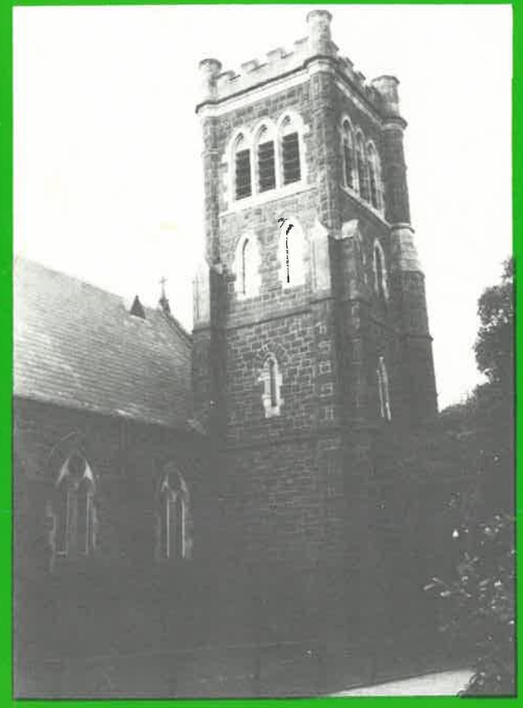
THE PIONEER

PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUSTRALIA



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MELBOURNE ?

See page 3

Registered for posting as a periodical - Category A

JUNE 1979

APOLOGY: In the last issue of The Pioneer (March 1979), two photos were printed in the wrong place. The pictures of churches on pages 2 and 7 should have been the other way round.

Unfortunately, I was not aware of the mistake until the printing of the magazine was complete. *(The Editor)*

BUILDING AT BELROSE: *Thanks to the response of people to our Building Appeal, work has begun here at Belrose, to erect a new Federal Office, and do extensions and alterations to the existing College building.*

See page 2, for details about the opening of the new Federal Office.

RESIGNATION: *You will be sorry to hear of the resignation of Sister Bev Richardson (nee Rilatt).*

Bev worked in the Dioceses of Sydney, Melbourne and Perth, as well as completing a 2 year Course with the Richmond Fellowship in England.

She returned to Australia with her husband at the beginning of this year.

News and Notes

OLD MAGAZINES: In a previous issue, we asked whether anyone had old copies of The Pioneer.

We now have almost 3 complete sets. We only need 1 copy of no. 47 (December 1956), and 2 copies of no. 57 (December 1961).

Can you help please?

ORDINATION:

On Ascension Day, Thursday 24th May, the Rev. Captain John McKnight was ordained to the Priesthood, by the Bishop of Grafton.

At right, at the Service at St. Martin's Church Mullumbimby - from left, the Right Rev. D.N. Shearman, the Rev. A. Kitchingman (Rector of Mullumbimby), Archdeacon W.L. Sanders, and the Rev. Captain John McKnight.

FAR WEST BEACH MISSION! *Over the long weekend at Easter, Captain Brian Mattinson took four of our Students to assist with a Beach Mission at Menindee Lakes, in the far west of New South Wales.*

The Beach Mission was conducted by the Scripture Union and followed a pattern similar to those conducted along the coast in December/January. The main difference was that it was very much "inland", to reach out to the many people who journey to Menindee for a brief camping holiday.

Left: Part of the "tent city" at Menindee Lakes.

45 YEARS OLD!

Yes, the Church Army in Australia celebrates its 45th anniversary on the 4th August, 1979.

As we launch our Birthday Appeal for 1979, we are very conscious of the fact that many of you have already responded generously to two special appeals this year. However, we are hopeful that many will support the Birthday Appeal, or encourage a new supporter to do so.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A "MIDDLE-AGE SPREAD" !

By the end of next year, our present number of Officers will have increased by almost 50%. We are confident that many more men and women will join our ranks too, and that many more exciting opportunities for evangelism will open up.

To cope with an increase in numbers and areas of ministry, we must be able to look to an increase in support and supporters.

YOUR DONATION TO THE BIRTHDAY APPEAL MAY BE SENT TO US IN THE ATTACHED ENVELOPE.

In Melbourne Today

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS, we have three Officers at work in the Diocese of Melbourne.

It is quite a while since any of them appeared in writing, so you will find them on other pages of this issue. The three are involved in quite different areas of ministry.

SISTER BRIDGES has worked in children's homes for most of her years in the Church Army, and is at present on the Staff of the Burwood Children's Home in Melbourne - page 5.

CAPTAIN CHRIS THIELE is on the Staff of the Parish of Holy Trinity, Kew. As well as the usual parish activities one would expect to be involved in, Chris is always on the look-out for different opportunities for outreach - page 6. (Cover picture - Holy Trinity, Kew)

SISTER FLO HERMAN has only recently begun work in something new and exciting. You'll find her on page 7.

CALENDAR OF PRAYER

Following is a suggested Calendar of Prayer for use over a period of 5 days:

MONDAY

THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH ARMY IN AUST.: The Most Rev. Sir Marcus Loane

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

THE SEVEN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD.

FEDERAL OFFICE:

Federal Director, Captain G.A. Page, Mrs. Page, Andrew, Katherine & Charis

Staff Sister, Sister P.A. Free

Staff Captain, Captain B. Mattinson, Mrs. Mattinson, Andrew, Christopher, Warwick & Stuart

Office Staff: Mrs. L. Brophey, Mrs. H. Carroll, Mrs. S. Smith

THE CHURCH ARMY - in England, U.S.A., Canada, Eastern Africa, New Zealand & the West Indies

TUESDAY

NEWCASTLE, GRAFTON & GOSFORD BOOKSHOPS

Manager, Captain N.A.R. Payne, Mrs. Payne, Andrea, Mark & Elizabeth

Bookshop Staff: Mr. L. Jennison, Mrs. J. Payne, Mrs. M. Dunn, Miss K. Wilson, Mrs. G. Bolton, and voluntary staff

SPECIAL MINISTRY TO GIRLS:

Melbourne, Vic. - Sister F. Herman

CHILDREN'S HOMES:

Burwood Children's Home, Vic. - Sister N.J. Bridges

St. George's Homes, Rockhampton, Qld. - the Rev. Captain N. Polgen

YOUTH WORK:

St. John's Hostel & St. John's Parish, Forbes, N.S.W. - Sister L. Bullard

Calrossy Girls' School, Tamworth, N.S.W. - Sister W. Ferguson

WEDNESDAY

ABORIGINAL WORK:

Yarrabah, Nth. Qld. - the Rev. Captain & Mrs. A. Malcolm, Andrew & Ruth

INDUSTRIAL EVANGELISM:

Factories at Granville, Cabramatta, Homebush, Villawood & Fairfield, N.S.W. - Captain D.O. Quayle

"ALTERNATE CULTURE" GROUPS EVANGELISM:

Binna Burra, N.S.W. - the Rev. Captain J. McKnight

RETIRED OFFICERS & WIDOWS:

Mrs. C. Fisk
The Rev. & Mrs. A.W. Batley
Sister G.A. Phillpot Sister E.N. Bacon
Sister M. Pritchard Sister I.B. Johnson
Sister E. Campbell (part-time in Parish of Riverwood, N.S.W.)

THURSDAY

AERIAL MINISTRY:

with part-time parish work, Lismore, N.S.W. - Captain & Mrs. K. Cullen, Anthony & Belinda

PARISH EVANGELISM:

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Epping - Sister L. Russell
Lithgow - Captain T. Brooks
Lightning Ridge - Captain & Mrs. L. Fernance, Faith & Warren
Hurstville - Captain & Mrs. J. Harding
South Wagga - Captain M. Rogers

LEAVE OF ABSENCE - Captain & Mrs. D. Hinchliffe, Andrew & Darren

VICTORIA:

Kew - Captain C. Thiele

When I visited the Burwood Children's Home in Melbourne a few months ago, there was something which impressed me greatly. The separate cottages did not remind me at all of an "institution". There was a very homely atmosphere. I don't imagine that a home like this one can ever *completely* make up for a happy natural home. But it seems to me that everything that tries to parallel the "normal" situation is important and essential to a child or young person who spends part or all of his growing years in a home.

Sister N.J. Bridges

Burwood Children's Home was incorporated in 1908, and its objects are:- to conduct an undenominational Christian Home in Victoria for children (orphans and otherwise) who are destitute, neglected or homeless; to provide for the development in body, mind and spirit of those admitted to the home.

Sister Bridges has spent most of her ministry, as a Church Army Officer, in children's homes - in New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria. At Burwood Children's Home, Sister lives in one of the cottages. With other staff, she has domestic responsibilities and care of the children.

As a Church Army Evangelist, she has a spiritual concern for them too - *to see them grow in the knowledge and love of God and in a personal relationship with Him.*

(The Editor)

* *

"PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW ..."

MISSION AT WEIPA

Extract of letter from the Rev. M Babbage

"I guess that maybe the Mission wasn't quite what we expected. As I look back I'm not entirely sure I know what we expected, but one thing is for sure, it was one of the most exciting fortnights of my life. When Kevin Cullen left, after two weeks of frantic activity, I was exhausted and elated, almost not believing it had really happened. (Captain Kevin Cullen of the Church Army conducted the Mission.)

"We saw the Lord move in a truly wonderful way as many came to accept, for the first time, Jesus as their Lord, as well as many to re-affirm their faith. Perhaps the most dramatic conversion was that of a 21 year old lad, verging on alcoholism, with a list of police charges that made my mind boggle. Living off the 'dole' he had been wasting his life, and was well on the way to ruining it. The evidence of his sincerity and his desire to change his life and live for Christ is transparent. His old friends have been persistent in trying to draw him back from God, but God has poured out the power of His Spirit on him in a wonderful way and he has stood firm. He is growing in understanding and radiates more and more the love of God. For the first time in three years he has gone and found a job, and he believes he is being led to some form of full-time ministry. One of his friends was with him in Church last Sunday for the first time - Praise God.

"The task of follow-up is monumental. I would despair but for the knowledge that God will keep His own. There is much to be done and we covet your continued prayers as we encourage and build up those who have been touched by the Lord."

(Reprinted with the kind permission of the Bush Church Aid Society)